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ITON • WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2008

**Celebrity Buzz** 

**Aniston** gets some dating

### **Police find** marijuana in sex shops

**CHARGES** Two sex shops in Leduc have been busted for allegedly selling a little more than marital aids.

Search warrants for Night Rhythms and Allush Lingerie were conducted, leading officers to what they believe were bags of pot both in the stores and in a trailer parked out

Richard Laurie Burton, 51, and Alice Marie Burton, 38, were both charged with possession of a controlled substance.

While Alice Burton was released on \$500 cash bail, Richard Burton was remanded into custody.

World pg 6

Travel pg 27

**Obama to** 

cut billions

in spending

Dig the scene

in Australia

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METRO EDMONTON



Staff Sgt. Jamie Ewatski speaks to media at the downtown police headquarters about the Top Cop Award, which he received yesterday.

### From court to Top Cop

### Kiwanis award goes to officer appealing assault conviction

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES

A city police officer who was convicted of assault in July has been named the best of the best.

Staff Sgt. Jamie Ewatski was handed the Kiwanis Top Cop Award at Police Headquarters yesterday for his 30 years of service, and 13 years of commitment to keeping kids off drugs.

Ewatski, 48, and Staff Sgt. Giovanni (John) Fiorilli, 48, were convicted of assault on July 8, after Herve Dubois,

47, claimed the officers pepper-sprayed and arrested him in his home without a warrant in December 2004.

Ewatski was handed an absolute discharge, which meant he would not have a criminal record if he completed 60 hours of community service. He is appealing the conviction.

This (award) maybe solidifies a few things that were brought to the attention in court that day. Realistically, the people who know me, know what I am and who I am," he said.

Ewatski was praised yes-

### **Appeal process**

Appeal proceedings for Staff Sgt. Jamie Ewatski and Staff Sgt. Giovanni Fiorilli begin Dec. 11.

terday for his commitment to the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program, and for his roles in various sections. He was D.A.R.E. officer of the year in 1998, and has taught more than 600 children.

Chief Mike Boyd also praised Ewatski's abilities. "Our students are 20 per cent of our population, but they are 100 per cent of our future. Jamie recognizes that," Boyd said.

With the appeal process looming, the top cop remains optimistic and proud of his achievements.

"I realize that I still have a matter before the courts,' Ewatski said. "Has it impacted the way I've been doing business as a police officer? Not at all."

Watch as Ewatski speaks with reporters about his love of the job at metronews.ca/local

### MD puzzled by students cancelling CF event over race, gender

**DISEASE** Cystic fibrosis experts in Edmonton are reacting with confusion after a university in Ottawa decided to axe fundraising for the disease, because it mainly affects white men.

The student's group at Carleton University voted to cancel its annual Shinerama event, saying the disease doesn't affect a diverse enough group and won't be supported by students.

"It seems bizarre," said "It Dr. Neil Brown, University of Alberta cystic fi- Dr. Neil brosis clinic head physici-

seems bizarre." Brown

Brown said while the respiratory and digestive disease is common among white men, it's not gender specific.

'This is a genetic disease, and based on the fact that it's more common in some races than others is not reason enough to cancel. People don't choose to get it."

U of A Shinerama organizer Christina Luong said the student body should have been consulted, adding "Maybe if they polled the student population at large, they'd get a better idea of what everyone thought of it."

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES/METRO EDMONTON MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 5

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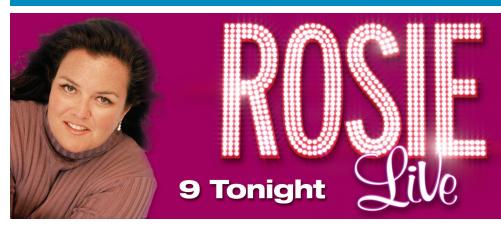
The St. Albert United Church will be hosting a marathon scrapbooking event Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. The 12-hour marathon will be held in conjunction with a potluck and attendees are asked to bring food for the group and a donation for the Edmonton Food Bank. For more information, call 780-690-5306. METRO EDMONTON

### Local



### **Secret Santa**

It's that time of year again, and the hard-working gift wrappers at Santa's Anonymous are looking for volunteers. To help wrap presents, head down to 12150 - 154th Street any Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday or Sunday after Nov. 25 to fill out a volunteer application form. METRO EDMONTON



# Cityty

**(**) ROGERS™



Curlers Jennifer Jones and Kevin Martin check out some curling rocks at Capital FM in West Edmonton Mall yesterday. Jones and Martin were there to sign autographs and promote the Roar of the Rings curling trials, just over a year away.

### metr@news.ca What's online today.

Watch what researches have learned about Thursday's meteor at metronews.ca/local Watch Food bank donations are dropping just as demand spikes at metronews.ca/ canada

### One man dead after crash

**CRASH** Alcohol is believed to be a factor in a fatal collision that shut down Anthony Henday Drive for most of Monday afternoon, police

Around 3:35 p.m., officers responded to a three-vehicle collision on Henday Drive near 127th Street. It's believed a 33-year-old man travelling west drove his car across the centre median, through a fence and into oncoming traffic.

The car slammed into a truck and an SUV before coming to a stop.

Emergency officials had to extricate the man from his car, and rushed him to hospital, where he later died as a result of injuries sustained in the accident.

The man's death is the 27th traffic fatality of 2008. At this time last year, there were 29 traffic deaths.

> VICTORIA HANDYSIDES/ METRO EDMONTON

### Taft stays on wagon

JEFF CUMMINGS jeff.cummings@metronews.ca

With only a short time left until Kevin Taft steps down as Alberta's Liberal leader, the Edmonton-Calder MLA was able to steer wrestle his fellow provincial politicians one hoof closer to making rodeo an official Alberta sport.

"I'm delighted to see the motion pass with support from members of the Legislative Assembly," said Taft in a release about his private members bill, passed Monday in the Legislature.

'Whether it is the Calgary Stampede, the Canadian Finals Rodeo in Edmonton, the Ponoka Stampede or the Thornhild Rodeo, Albertans from across the province clearly love rodeo."

Alberta Culture Minister Lindsay Blackett said Taft's bill won't become law because it's too big of a step for a government that is dealing with "more important issues."

"I've got a lot more pressing concerns than making rodeo an official sport," said Blackett during a phone interview with Metro.

Tove Reece, a director with an Ed-

monton-

mal rights

group, says

Taft's new

bill is "a gi-

ani-

based



Kevin Taft

step backwards" for Alberta when it comes to respecting the safety of ani-

ant

mals. 'Make no mistake, these animals are tortured," said Reece with Voice for Animals. "To have that kind of spectacle or entertainment being called a sport, I think first of all is a joke.

"To have it the official, so-called sport of Alberta, I think is embarrassing.'

Taft says the sport epitomizes Alberta's western heritage, along with giving the province a chance to highlight its cowboy culture to the rest of the world.

'No other sport carries such a deep connection to our province's land and wildlife, and that connec-



Lindsay Blackett

velopment," said Taft. The mo-

has

tion isn't binding, but it will put pressure on the government to act, said the Lib-

A new leader for the Liberals is expected to be announced next month after Taft announced he's stepping down as party leader in the fall. Taft will still be an active MLA for the party.

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nication and personal development. The workshop costs \$75, but organizers have a limited number of complimentary passes. Call (780) 669-3283.

Make a date to get that relationship on track Let's Make a Date hosts the Relationships that Work workshop tomorrow night at the Jubilee Auditorium. The three-hour workshop will focus on relationships, commu-

### Defence depicts slain teen

JEFF CUMMINGS jeff.cummings@metronews.ca

A medical examiner ruled that a slain teenager had ecstasy in his blood, along with a blood alcohol level of 163 milligrams — more than double the legal limit, said a defence lawyer vesterday.

As lawyer Peter Royal continued to cross-examine Joshua Hunt's mother



Joshua

in the second day of a trial into his death, he questioned her on whether she was aware the 16-yearold had

problems with drugs, crime and alco-

Witnesses also claim Hunt was known to carry around a knife, said the defence lawyer in his cross-examination.

Julie Anne Hunt said she was never aware her son had any problems related to substance abuse and crime, but added he was known for his outbursts.

"I knew he had problems," said Hunt's mother. "I don't believe he would carry a knife with him."

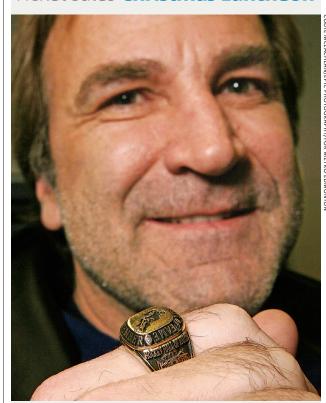
A 19-year-old man has been charged with murder

in Hunt's death, but he can't be named as he was 17 at the time of the alleged crime. He pleaded not guilty to one count of second-degree murder and two counts of assault.

The Crown alleges the youth stabbed Hunt in the heart after a fight in the home of the accused during a party.

The trial is expected to last 20 days. with files from **VICTORIA HANDYSIDES** 

### Ticket sales Christmas Luncheon



Retired Edmonton Oiler Glenn Anderson shows off his new Hallof-Fame ring at Edmonton's Fire Hall No. 2 downtown. Anderson and former teammate and Oilers general manager Kevin Lowe were on hand to help launch ticket sales for the upcoming Christmas Bureau — Copper Jackets Christmas Luncheon.

### Economic crisis brings 'new faces' to food bank

There are many new faces showing up at Edmonton's food bank, thanks to the global economic meltdown, says the charity's executive director in wake of a national report that shows more Canadians than ever before are using food banks.

official tally isn't available since the markets tanked last month, but she says staff are beginning to notice "new faces" as companies lay off staff and reduce work hours.

"Within the last few weeks, we are seeing some Marjorie Bencz says an of the pressure just starting to happen," said Bencz.

Bencz also says staff are "cautiously optimistic" that they will see food filling up the shelves as fast as it has in the past with its annual Christmas drives.

The working poor are using food banks across the country more than ever, said a report released yesterday.

Homeward Trust Edmonton also said in a report that more than 3,000 homeless people are living on city streets this year, an 18 per cent jump than what the group counted in 2006.

JEFF CUMMINGS/METRO EDMONTON

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**News** in brief

**CLOSE CALL** An errant bullet

fired from a gun in an upper-

ing Monday night missed a man who was watching TV in

a few inches, police said.

level suite at a north-end build-

bed in the condo below by just

Amarinder Singh Parmar, 26,

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A 34-year-old former elementary school teacher pleaded not guilty to 27 charges of Internet luring of children in a St. Stephen court on Tuesday. The RCMP laid 16 more charges against Jude O'Reilly yesterday. The Mounties allege the charges involve as many as 25 young people. CBC NEWS ONLINE





### Retiree finds name on no-fly list

56-year-old former school secretary from Vancouver Island says she has had to shelve her retirement dream of travelling the world because her name has appeared on an international security watch list. Despite recent help from the RCMP, Glenda Hutton, who has no criminal record, has been unable to get her name removed from the list. She was recently rejected from crossing the border into the U.S.

### weigh 10 tonnes

**METEOR** A University of Calgary researcher has discovered that the spectacular meteor that lit the skies over the prairies last Thursday weighs approximately 10 tonnes.

U of C expert Alan Hildebrand also believes the large fireball may have left chunks of the shattered space rock in a region in western Saskatchewan.

"We are now trying to get all the transient information about the fireball before it is lost," Hildebrand stated in a press re-

He has led a team of researchers and people interested in finding the remaining pieces of the rock on a hunt just south of Battle River, Sask

**METRO NEWS SERVICES** 

### **Space rock could** Funding trips up Ballet B.C.

FERNANDO CARNEIRO

LAYOFFS There's no one left standing — on their tippy-toes or otherwise — at Ballet B.C. as all 38 dancers and staff were terminated.

The Ballet British Columbia's board of directors issued a news release yesterday saying that "flagging subscriptions and low ticket sales" are to blame. The board called the move a "reorganization."

Leon Feizo-Gas said the dancers were in rehearsal when the announcement was made. "There were a lot of tears," said Feizo-Gas, who was in his fourth season with Ballet B.C. "I was shocked. It really caught us all off guard."

The one show still on is the presentation of the Nutcracker in late December,



Leon Faizo-Gas, at the Scotiabank Dance Centre downtown Vancouver yesterday, is one of 18 dancers terminated by Ballet B.C.

which ballet board chairman Graeme Barrit said could save the company. "We are asking everyone to go and buy tickets for Nutcracker," Barrit said.

In the meantime, the board is asking for support at all levels of governments as well as private sponsors.

To Feizo-Gas, this could mean having to move away from Vancouver. "That is something that needs to be considered by more than just myself," he said. "If I had a choice I would rather be a dance artist in Van-

### **Cystic fibrosis not** 'diverse' enough: Students' group

**OTTAWA** The Carleton University Students Association has voted to discontinue an annual fundraiser for cystic fibrosis on the basis that the disease mostly affects "white people, and primarily men," and is not "diverse" enough for students' continued support.

Meera Chander, who seconded the group's motion, said some students had suggested that CF did not affect a broad enough range of people to accurately reflect Carleton's makeup.

Cathleen Morrison, with the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, called the assertions "incorrect." CF is the most common fatal genetic disease affecting young Canadians and doesn't discriminate among gender or skin colour, said Morrison.

The school's 'Shinerama' fundraiser had raised nearly \$1 million. METRO CANADA

### **News** in brief

**TORIES** Politicians and senior bureaucrats will feel the pain tomorrowm when the federal government unveils plans to rein in spending and salaries while outlining an economic strategy to be put into action in the new year.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

**CALGARY** Two city aldermen are lobbying provincial MLAs to put a halt on a controversial \$25-million pedestrian bridge over the Bow river, calling them "extravagant, unnecessary expenditures." City council has approved the project METRO CANADA







**Church upset at German man selling Jesus chocolates** 

Germany's churches criticized a businessman yesterday for selling thousands of Jesus chocolates. Frank Oynhausen set up his "Sweet Lord" chocolate Jesus-making business saying he wanted to restore some traditional religious values to Christmas in Germany. REUTERS

## World



### **Keeping Mussolini's name alive**

in Italian right-wing party is offering 1,500 euros (\$2,400) to parents who name their babies after wartime fascist dictator Benito Mussolini or his wife Rachele, saying their names are under threat. The MSI-Fiamma Tricolore party, the descendant of Mussolini's fascist party, said the initiative in the poor, southern region of Basilicata was meant to keep alive names "at risk of extinction" and pay tribute to the movement's roots.

Guatemala Protesting violence against women

### Man sentenced to life for raping daughters

A British man was sentenced to life in prison yesterday for repeatedly raping his two daughters over a 25-year period, fathering seven children by them during years of violence and abuse.

A court in Sheffield, northern England, heard that the 56-year-old took pleasure in the harm he did to his daughters, whom he began abusing at the age of eight, threatening them with violence if they refused to have sex with him, Britain's Press Association reported.

The violence, abuse and incest — the man made his daughters pregnant a total of 19 times — recall the case of Josef Fritzl, the Austrian rapist who kept his

**ECONOMY** The U.S. Federal

Reserve unveiled an \$800

"When either one of his victims tried to end the sexual abuse, he threatened to kill them and their children."

Nicholas Campbell, lawyer

daughter locked in a dungeon for 24 years, fathering seven children by her. "When either one of his

victims tried to end the sexual abuse, he threatened to kill them and their children, and when they threatened to tell police, he said they would not be believed," lawyer Nicholas Campbell told the court.

The convicted man's son described him as having a "Jekyll and Hyde" personality that could turn to anger in a split second.

The court heard that the

Fed to spend \$800B on debt

father would hold his younger daughter's face close to a fire, singeing her eves, if she refused to do what he told her to, and at other times he held a knife to her throat, threatening to kill her.

"The victims were too frightened to tell anyone, even their mother," Campbell said. "The defendant played Russian roulette as to whether there would be complications in the pregnancies and with the health of his daughters."

### Obama plans to hack billions from spending

Obama vowed yesterday to cut billions of dollars from wasteful government programs as he sought to reassure Americans anxious about a growing mountain of debt and a faltering economy.

Obama held a second news conference in Chicago in two days, and planned a third for today, seeking to calm see-sawing financial markets looking for signs that his incoming administration has a viable plan to tackle the worst

economic crisis in decades. He was expected to move away from the economy by early next week and

announce some national security choices. They were reported to include making Sen. Hillary Clinton secretary of state and asking current Defense Secretary Robert Gates to continue in

his post. In his news conference yesterday Obafective and efficient government.

Activists dressed as mimes perform a sketch about violence against women during a march to

mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women in Guatemala City

"We cannot sustain a system that bleeds billions of taxpaver dollars on programs that have outlived their usefulness or exist solely because of the power of a politician, lobbyist or interest group," he said.

Obama said, were reports of crop subsidies to farmers who make more than \$2.5 million per year. He did not say what other programs he was eyeing.

the top two officials at

the Office of Management and Budget, charging them with examining federal spending to cut wasteful programs.

Orszag immediately resigned as head of the Congressional Budget Office. Nabors serves as staff director of the House Appropriations Committee.

**DEBT** President-elect Barack ma vowed to run a cost-ef-

An obvious example,

Obama named Peter Orszag and Rob Nabors as

### Mining takeover bid ends

billion US plan yesterday to buy mortgage-related debt • Mining company BHP Billiand back consumer loans ton's \$66 billion US bid for rias it tries to revive the U.S. val Rio Tinto became the latlending market and steer est corporate casualty of the global economy away from a deep recession.

global economic turmoil, with BHP blaming the financial crisis and sliding metals

As the Fed announced its heart of U.S. economic move, the United States woes, the collapsed housposted the sharpest fall in ing market. The resulting gross domestic product meltdown in the high-risk since 2001, likely joining mortgage market engulfed Europe in recession, while the world and caused the China's economy is now exworst financial crisis in 80 pected to grow next year at years, freezing access to the slowest pace since 1990. credit, sparking bank collapses and requiring the The Fed's move is intended to strike at the bailout of entire countries.

The latest actions mean the U.S. government now faces a possible bill as high as \$8.3 trillion from various programs to prop up the financial system, revive loan markets and rescue faltering companies. That is more than half last year's U.S. gross domestic product, about \$14 trillion.





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### **News** in brief

IRAN Shirin Ebadi, winner of the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize for her human rights work in Iran, said at least six juvenile offenders executed by Iran's judiciary since March.

**RUSSIA** A car exploded in Russia's second city of St Petersburg yesterday, killing three people and seriously injuring a fourth, the Emergencies Ministry said.

### **Protesters** take over airport

THAILAND Thousands of bemused tourists were left stranded yesterday in Bangkok after anti-government protesters stormed the terminal of one of Asia's busiest airports.

"There are a lot of people with sticks and baseball bats. They looked ready for a fight. We don't know what's going on," Belgian Ben Creemers said as People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) supporters rampaged round the \$4 billion new terminal.

Airline and airport officials simply melted away, pulling down the shutters and deserting their posts at the approach of members of the PAD. REUTERS

### Polish PM's body to be exhumed

**MYSTERY** Poland exhumed the remains of wartime prime minister and military leader General Wladyslaw Sikorski on Tuesday for DNA and other tests in an attempt to settle the mystery surrounding his death in 1943.

Sikorski died in a plane crash in Gibraltar after visiting Polish forces fighting with the British against Nazi Germany in the Middle East. Many Poles remain convinced he was assassinated.

REUTERS

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# Comment & Views

Comment

# Moon's spin on hate Professor recommends repealing section of rights act



hero is a called Richard Moon. Other people have their Sidney Crosbys or Beyoncés, but I want Richard Moon's autograph. I'm thinking of mounting his picture on my office wall. He's the man.

Who, you ask, is Richard Moon? Well, he's a professor at the University of Windsor who has written a report, released this week, recommending that the Canadian Human Rights Commission no longer investigate complaints relating to hate speech.

Who cares about that, you snort? You should, as the Human Rights Commission and all its little provincial sprouts make it their business to monitor your every thought, word and deed and decide whether or not you're playing by the rules.

The only \_ problem is the commissions make reluctantly the rules with concluded that they their zero input from me or had no jurisdiction you and they in the matter, they have a ten-large to got couldn't resist using dency to get zealous in their bully pulpits their defence to bring him down of the allegedly offended.

I've already

written here about the sad case of Mark Steyn, the neo-conservative Maclean's journalist who was dragged through an interminable investigation hosted by the B.C. Human Rights Commission for the crime of writing a peevish piece about Islam, only after the determined complainant was turned down by the Canadian and Ontario commissions.

But not before the heads of both the CHRC and its Ontario counterpart, Jennifer Lynch and Barbara Hall, respectively, took public shots at Steyn. Even if they reluctantly concluded that they had no juris-

diction in the matter, they couldn't reusing bully pulpits bring down a peg. Who think they they are, journalists?

Anyway, my new hero was commissioned

to

him

write a report in the wake of the Steyn furor, and I bet it spoiled more than one bureaucrat's day as his principle recommendation is to repeal the section of the Canadian Human Rights Act, Section 13, dealing with hate speech.

He was quick to point out we already have plenty of protection against hate speech. It's called the Criminal Code of Canada, which bans the willful promotion of hate. But that's not enough for the thought police, who have duplicated these provisions ad nauseam across the country, just in case someone has an errant thought.

But in this social networking age, every errant thought is posted on the Internet and the thought police are wearing themselves ragged trying to stem the tide.

So instead of trying to shut down hate-filled stupidity wherever it rears its head, destroying free and honest expression in the process, Moon offers the following common sense approach: "Find ways other than censorship to respond to expression that stereotypes and defames." Argument, debate, discussion, dialogue: Whatever you want to call it, it beats the kind of kangaroo court justice practised by human rights commissions.

Now, let's just hope someone doesn't complain to the human rights commission about Richard Moon.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting.

**Metro Life** 

Results from the

**Canadian Metro** 

Life Panel (441

respondents):

**Panel** 



### Letters

Searching for son was compelling process

Re: Season's-end sadness (Oct. 28)

Rick McGinnis' words touched my heart and stirred a familiar haunted feeling. Mad Men depicts times that are very real to me - unwanted pregnancy, secrets and shame and then giving life to a beautiful baby destined for adoption.

Searching for my son was a compelling and healing process.

accom-Sadly, my plished, clever and handsome son does not welcome an ongoing relationship. I honour his choice.

At the same time, I long for a relationship while holding him lovingly and tenderly in my heart. His very being continues to shape and define my life.

MARGARET WOOD, EDMONTON

### Some feel Vancouver 2010 is a colossal waste of money

Now that women ski jumpers have a court date, maybe they can think about who is going to pay for their event's inclusion. Uh-hum, taxpay-

If their thinking gets ad-

vanced enough, they will learn some taxpayers would rather not have their event funded, not because they dislike female ski jumpers, but from their belief that Vancouver's hosting of the 2010 Olympics is a colossal waste of their money. VINCENT LIZEE, VANCOUVER

### Don't pick on seniors for their driving habits

Re: Tougher rules for seniors? (Nov. 19)

Senior drivers respect the law more than younger drivers because their parents taught them the meaning of respect for others as well as good manners.

Could someone convey to Miss Williams that women my age (over 60) have the lowest accident stats?

> CHRISTINE ARCAND GODIN, BOURGET, ONT.

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### Word on the street: Do you think the North American auto industry deserves a government bailout?

### **Tanya Kozakewich** age 29,

Edmonton

A: Driving a car is a luxury, it's not an automatic necessity. If they're suffering, I just don't think it should be like a public service.

### **Tony Fuentes** Edmonton

A: No. What if company was in the same situation? Would the government help us out? Probably

not.



### Hoskins age 29, Toronto

A: Yes. The reason for that is the government is implicit in the state of economy.



### **Kyle Button** age 24, Calgary

A: It's such a big

omy and I don't think it would hurt anything certainly need it. The big question is how much and how



Sarah

Massie

Vancouver



### A: No. If the part of our econ-

heads of the car companies can fly in to ask for money on corporate jets, I think they can

### Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

### Petro-Can joint venture unlikely: CEO

OIL Petro-Canada will not give up a stake in its oilsands operations in order to acquire refining capacity to process the tar-like bitumen to be produced at its planned Fort Hills oil sands mine, its chief executive said yesterday.

Ron Brenneman said the company was not interested in forming a joint venture with a U.S. refiner that would dilute ownership of its oil sands assets.

It's more likely the company would buy or invest in a refiner, Brenneman

Both EnCana Corp. and Husky Energy Inc. have formed such ventures, surrendering half stakes in oil sands projects in return for an interest in U.S. refineries. The move allows them to avoid building expensive upgraders to process their oilsands bitumen. REUTERS

### **Automakers** could cut 15,000 jobs: think-tank

**AUTOS** Beleaguered automakers in Canada will wipe out at least 15,000 jobs and post staggering losses of more than \$3.1 billion this year and in 2009 before starting a recovery in 2010, according to the Conference Board.

The slowdown in the U.S. auto market, a shift to more fuel-efficient vehicles not built in Canada and a strong dollar will continue to pummel automakers here for another year, the board said yesterday in its latest outlook for the sector.

The sector "has been battered by an unrelenting barrage of structural and macroeconomic developments over the last two years, a trend that is unlikely to subside as 2009 approaches," board economist Sabrina Browarski said in the outlook report.

"Once a stalwart of the post-NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) Canadian economy, the automotive sector will shrink for its fourth consecutive year in 2009."

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**NETWORKS** Shares of Cisco Systems Inc. were down six per cent to \$15.41 US on Nasdaq

yesterday after the network equipment maker, a bellwether for the technology sector, said Nov. 5 it would shut down most its U.S. and Canadian business for five days as

part of its previously announced plan to cut costs by more than \$1 billion.

### Car sales driven up 1.1% despite downturn

Despite troubles in the auto industry, Canadians bought a lot of new cars in September, helping to push up overall retail sales in the month by an unexpectedly strong 1.1 per cent from August.

New car sales jumped 2.9 per cent in value terms in September and the number of vehicles sold also rose. The automotive sector as a whole — which encompasses used vehicles and parts and gasoline rose 2.2 per cent.

Statistics Canada said yesterday the increase in retail sales was largely due to the first rise in new vehicle pur-

"All economists are eating some humble pie on this one."

Derek Holt

January. Car dealers in Canada forecast that 2008 will be the second or third best year on record for new vehicle sales, even as auto

chases since

manufacturers complain of plummeting U.S. sales.

The September gain more than offset August's 0.3 per cent decline in retail sales and made economists look excessively downbeat with their median forecast of a 0.3 per cent increase.

"All economists are eating some humble pie on this one as growth in total sales nearly tripled estimates, while growth in core sales ex autos quadrupled consensus predictions," said Derek Holt, economist at Scotia Capital.

The rise in car sales does not mean smooth sailing for the Canadian auto manufacturing industry, however, as about one in nine cars made in Canada is exported to the United States, where car sales are at depressed levels.

The good news is unlikely to last through the fourth quarter as the impact of the global financial crisis hit the Canadian economy in full force in October, as business and consumer spending, export levels and commodity prices decline.

REUTERS

### **Business** in brief

Utley has surgery

10

Philadelphia Phillies second baseman Chase Utley has had arthroscopic hip surgery and is expected to need four to six months to recover. METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Sports "He's a walking train wreck, and unfortunately people turn their heads to watch a train wreck." Golfer Stuart Appleby, left, about John Daly, right, on what he believes is the reason for Daly's invitation to the Australian Masters tournament. SOURCE: ESPN

SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

### Burke all but signed in Toronto

NHL Brian Burke will have a formal contract offer from the Toronto Maple Leafs in his hands today and he's just a signature from becoming the team's president and general manager, sources told the Toronto Star.

Considering that the financial compensation have already been agreed, acceptance of the deal is a formality and the Burke era in Toronto will begin with

that autograph. It's anticipated that the 53-year-old Burke will be introduced as the Leafs' head



of all things **Burke** hockey on Saturday. Burke's deal will

include the rest of this season, then a five-year contract extension.

He made about \$1.4 million US managing the Anaheim Ducks and is expected to have his salary doubled by the Leafs.

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Athletes involved in the B2ten program look for the winning recipe with chef Matthew Schnarch, far right, during a retreat last year. From left are cross-country skier Alex Harvey, hockey goalie Kim St. Pierre, bobsledder Helen Upperton, skeleton racer Jeff Pain and moguls skier Stephanie St. Pierre.

# B2ten may have medal formula

### VANCOUVER 2010 **Games**

### If Helen Upperton's bobsled had wheels, they'd have been spinning.

The promising young pilot was stuck in a rut: fourth at the 2006 Turin Olympics, five fourth-place finishes on the World Cup circuit the following season. She knew her driving was improving, even if the results didn't show it. She also knew she needed a new sled, so she committed herself to doing whatever it took to buy one.

It turned out to be a lot easier than she expected.

That summer she hooked up with an outfit called B2ten, a group of Canadian businessmen who have pooled about \$2 million together to provide Olympians with the extras that could produce a medal at the 2010 Vancouver Games — no strings attached.

It's not a blank cheque. In fact, the athletes don't get any cash. The program provides services and goods to complement what already exists and generally recruits athletes who are on the cusp of an international breakthrough but might be short of resources. "They said, 'You tell us what you need and we'll make sure you have it,'" said world champion speed skater Denny Morrison, a B2ten member.

Among the other 16 winter athletes in the program are Olympic moguls champion Jennifer Heil, Olympic skeleton silver medallist Jeff Pain, Team Canada hockey goaltender Kim St. Pierre, long-track speed skater Christine Nesbitt and short-track speed skater Francois-Louis Tremblay.

Upperton has been one of the major beneficiaries because of the equipment needs in her sport. B2ten has invested more than \$100,000 in buying her a sled from the Monaco federation, several sets of steel runners, plus support to help her adapt to the new sled. The help hasn't stopped there. Upperton said B2ten has provided mentoring, advice on team management and dealing with sports politics, access to top athletic trainers like Scott Livingston of the Montreal Canadiens, osteopaths, sports psychologists — and a lot more.

The donors appear to be in it truly to help the athletes, getting nothing tangible in return but a tax receipt.

"There's no quid pro quo, it's not a marketing-type thing, our name isn't on helmets or anything like that," said Barry Heck, a Calgary merchant banker who heads up the western investors.

But Heck said they share a feeling that Canada should be doing a lot better on the international stage, but is hurt by abysmal resources.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

### DeAngelis may be headed to the NFL

Don't be surprised if the CFL's top scorer is kicking around the NFL next season.

Sandro DeAngelis, who connected on five of five field-goal attempts to lead the Calgary Stampeders to the Grey Cup last Sunday, has attracted the interest of dozens of NFL scouts, many of whom attended the CFL's championship game in Montreal. DeAngelis, a 27-year-old native of Niagara Falls, Ont., scored 217 points to finish atop the CFL in the past season.

• The Los Angeles Dodgers are reportedly trying to re-sign free agent Rafael Furcal, whom the Blue Jays dearly covet for two roles — leadoff hitter and shortstop. The Jays likely won't outbid the



Dodgers, San Francisco Giants or Oakland A's ... if the A's successfully lure Furcal, they'll trade shortstop Bobby Crosby — and the Jays already have let Oakland know they're interested. The A's might be willing to pick up part of Crosby's \$5.25-million US salary ... The Jays, meanwhile, continue to pursue slugger Milton Bradley but sources whisper their Plan B for power could be Ken Griffey Jr.

### **NBA King James**



Cleveland forward LeBron James, rumoured to be headed to the Knicks in 2010, tosses chalk in the air as the crowd cheers him before his team beat the Knicks 119-101 last night at Madison Square Garden in New York. James scored 26 points in the win.

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n Australia, the Aboriginals share a unique tradition, going "walkabout." The term describes how Aboriginals return to the bush for spiritual replenishment — a time when they re-connect with their traditional way of life, the land and their ancient rites and customs. The urge to

return to the bush is an individual and profoundly personal one and the length of time taken for this spiritual replenishment will vary.

Today, the urge to go walkabout can apply to anyone. It can occur when you feel that there is a disconnect between your heart and your head,

there may be something playing on your mind or you may be feeling stressed out and just need to get away to clear your thoughts and rejuvenate.

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"As an
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filmmaker I
am using my
country as a
canvas on
which to
create a
metaphor for
'the faraway'.



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Baz Luhrmann, Director Australia

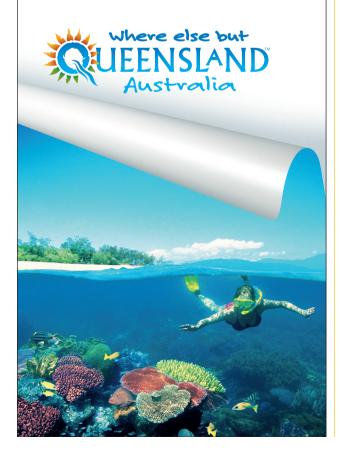
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know-how. For anyone with some sailing experience, a bareboat charter is the way to go. Despite the name, a bareboat generally comes complete with a well equipped kitchen, a barbecue, stereo system, hot showers and complete safety gear. Guests who are not confident sailors can rent a skipper, or choose a motor cruiser, which are relatively easy to operate. Charts and radios are provided, along with advice on the best anchorages, beaches, diving and fishing spots. For more information, visit www.destinationqueensland.com

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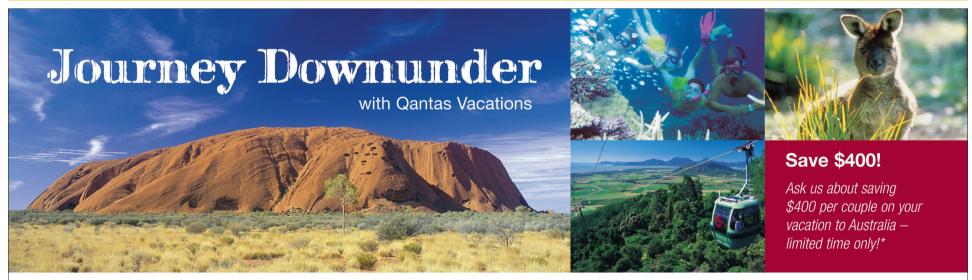


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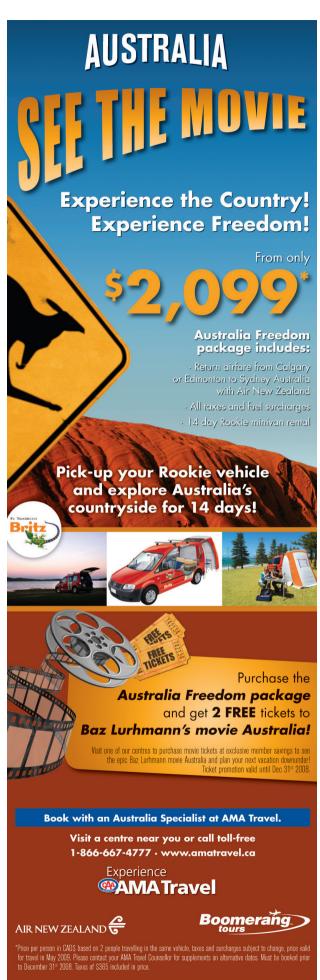
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Set on the explosive brink of World War II, Australia is the epic tale of one woman's journey to a faraway continent. Starring Nicole Kidman as a buttoned-up English aristocrat who comes to save the land she has inherited and Hugh Jackman as the rough-hewn local who helps her, they embark on a trip together across hundreds of miles of the world's most beautiful. yet unforgiving terrain, only to face the bombing of the city of Darwin.

In this lush telling, the landscape becomes its own character, inspiring viewers to reconnect with their spirit of romance and love of adventure in a way that only Australia can. Shot on location in Darwin, Sydney, the Kimberley region, and Bowen, a coastal town in Queensland, viewers get a sense of the dramatic and rugged landscape, stretches of sparsely populated wilderness, and cities of the day, like Sydney and Darwin.

### Bullo River Station

Thought to be the inspiration behind Faraway Downs, the homestead featured in the film, Bullo Rover Station is in the north west corner of the Northern Territory and home to

around 900,000 cattle, a stunning variety of native Australian animals including wallabies and dingoes as well as thousands of migratory birds and massive Boab trees. For more info, visit **www.australiasoutback.com** 

### Kununurra

Fertility waters? Nicole Kidman caused quite a stir when she recently named a local waterfall just outside of Kununnurra for helping her and other members of the crew in falling pregnant during shooting. Kununurra is an aboriginal word meaning "big water". For more information, visit www.westernaustralia.com



### The Kimberley

When cast and crew had a break from shooting in the

majestic Kimberley region, they shopped for Argyle diamond and Paspaley Pearls as gifts for friends and family. THE KIMBERLEY REGION

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### Bowen

Bowen, a sleepy coastal town in northern Queensland was transformed during shooting to become WWII Darwin. After filming, a "Thank



you Bowen" concert was played featuring none other than Nicole Kidman's husband, Keith Urban. For more info, visit www.destinationqueensland.com

### Sydney

Hugh Jackman was born and grew up in Sydney and Nicole Kidman was raised here. Baz Luhrmann and Catherine Martin were also born in New South Wales, Catherine in Sydney and Baz in Herons Creek, a tiny rural settlement in the northern part of the state. For more information, visit www.sydneyaustralia.com

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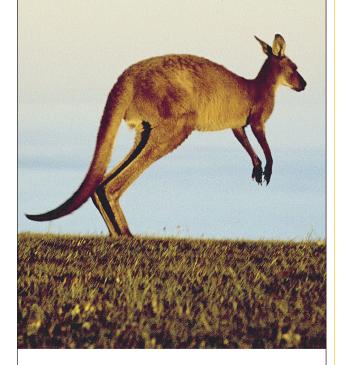


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Kangaroo Island is also home to
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### Adventure anyone?



### Sunsets, Saddles & Shiraz

ravelers wishing to replicate an Australia outback experience can now do so on a three-night South Australian cattle droving tour. Called "Sunsets, Saddles, and Shiraz," this experience is ideal for film fans, adventure seekers, and lovers of the great outdoors. The tour combines the romance of cattle droving with gourmet food and wine, native wildlife, and the stunning scenery of South Australia's Flinders Ranges, the gateway to the Outback.

The adventure begins at Nilpena, a working cattle station on the edge of LakeTorrens, where participants meet the drovers and are provided with horses and equipment necessary for two days in the saddle. A degree of riding experience is required



along with a moderate level of fitness.

During the tour, riders will find themselves immersed in an authentic Australian Outback adventure, working alongside drovers, dining with them around the campfire, and hearing about their unique lifestyle. Guests will learn to identify animal tracks and native plants while they herd approximately 200 cattle across red desert landscapes and sandy creek beds lined with river gum trees. Packed lunches and billy tea breaks, plus the opportunity to go in search of rare wildlife, such as the shy and elusive yellow-footed rock wallaby, are also included.

Sleep under the stars in authentic Australian swag and one night at the award-wining Parachilna's Prairie Hotel, quite possibly Australia's most famous, and luxurious, Outback hotel renowned for its specialty "feral food," including kangaroo, emu, camel, native limes, and bush tomatoes.

For further information on this tour, please visit **www.prairiehotel.com.au** and for more information on South Australia, visit **www.southaustralia.com** 

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The waters of Queensland offer some of the best underwater adventures on earth. Take the plunge and discover this wide, blue wonder accessible to all. Azure seas sparkling against crystal white sand, tropical islands, warm

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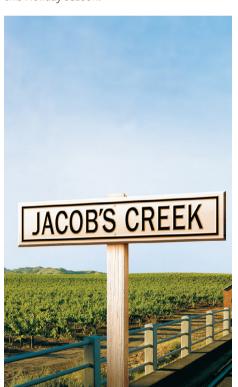


### Welcome to our place

Just where is our place? It all started back in 1847 when the first vines were planted by the banks of Jacob's Creek, in South Australia's Barossa Valley. Yes it's true - there is a real creek called Jacob's Creek. Coincidentally, there are also vineyards bearing the same name.

The creek has seen a few changes since those first plantings, and we now source our grapes from many of the finest regions in Australia. What hasn't changed is the pride we take in the wines we make.

Jacob's Creek® wines may come from Australia, but they're crafted to be enjoyed wherever you are. For a great experience at your place, we've created recipes specifically to pair with each Jacob's Creek® wine. Here's one to try this Holiday season.



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4 T-Bone Steaks

Mushroom Butter:

- 1 cup unsalted butter
- 1 cup Cremini mushrooms, diced
- 1 tablespoon dried Porcini mushrooms, 1 tablespoon fresh parsley, chopped soaked, rinsed and chopped
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- ½ cup white wine
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon fresh chives, chopped
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- ½ teaspoon each salt and pepper

Sauté Cremini mushrooms in 2 tablespoons of the butter until soft.

Add Porcini mushrooms along with garlic and sauté a further 1 to 2 minutes. Add the white wine, increase heat and simmer until almost all of the liquid has reduced. Add lemon juice, reduce once again, turn off heat and fold through herbs with mustard, salt and pepper. Allow mixture to cool down to room temperature.

In a food processor, process remaining butter until light and creamy. Add cooled mushroom mixture and pulse so as to keep the mixture rough in texture.

To make your butter log, lay a large piece of foil on a flat surface. Place butter in the centre of the foil in a long line (about 30 cm), leaving a few centimetres of foil at either end. Fold foil over lengthwise to roll butter into a log, twist ends and refrigerate until firm.

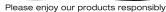
### to serve:

Grill or BBO steaks until done. Slice four 1-cm discs of butter from log and place each onto a steak. Butter discs should melt over steaks as they are being brought to the table. You can always store remaining butter in the freezer for future use.

Serve with a blue cheese salad, baked potatoes and Jacob's Creek® Reserve Shiraz.

For a full range of Jacob's Creek® recipes and pairings, visit www.jacobscreek.com





### ADVENTURE ESSENTIALS

iPod touch



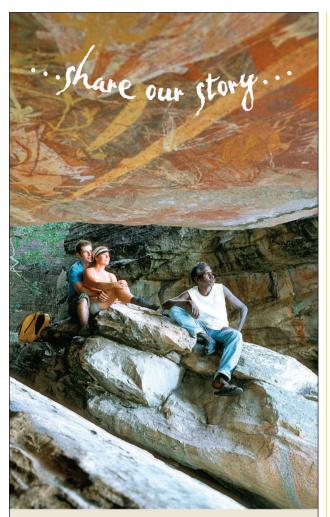
The iPod touch is the funnest iPod ever. You can listen to your music, watch movies and play hundreds of games. Go to iTunes and download exclusive content from "Australia" AND the Set to Screen Podcast Series hosted by Baz Luhrmann. To win your very own iPod touch, visit

www.metronews.ca/australia

### Arnott's Tim Tams



Australia's favourite biscuits, Tim Tams, are made from two layers of chocolate malted biscuit separated by a light cream filling and coated in a thin layer of chocolate. Aficionados enjoy their Tim Tams using the Tim Tam Slam, a technique that involves biting off opposite corners of the biscuit and using it as a straw to sip a hot beverage such as coffee or tea. Ex-pat Australians and Canadian chocolate lovers are rejoicing that Tim Tams are now available in Canada.



### The Art of the Outback

Connect with the oldest living culture on earth or lend an ear to a local for a colorful story of pioneering days gone by. Australia's Northern Territory is a place to discover Australia's cultural heritage first hand and learn ancient Dreamtime stories of the indigenous Aboriginals that will leave you with heartfelt memories and friendships to last a lifetime. Embrace the true spirit of exploration and replenish your spirit as you experience the real outback life in Australia's Northern Territory.

For more information talk to a travel professional.

Visit www.australiasoutback.com





# Australia's Outback



luru in the Northern Territory is one of Australia's most recognisable natural icons—a huge, rounded sandstone monolith, 9.4 kilometres in circumference, rising to a height of more than 340 metres above the plain. Uluru is a unique and beautiful place that has spiritual and cultural significance to the traditional Indigenous landowners of the area, the Anangu people. One of its most striking features is its apparent ability to 'change colour' as the light plays across it during the course of a day.

One of the best ways to travel to the Red Centre and traverse the Australian outback is on The Ghan. Boarding in Adelaide or Darwin, experience one of the most fascinating great train journeys of the world. Marvel at the spectacular Australian landscapes from fertile countryside surrounding Adelaide to the rusty hues of the Red Centre, onto the tropical splendour of the Top End. The train's emblem, of course, is an Afghan mounted on a camel, tribute to the redoubtable cameleers who, with their plodding .beasts

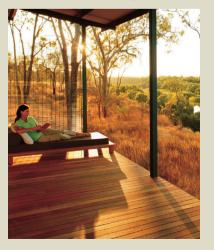
somehow found a way across the red heart of Australia while constructing the overland telegraph line. For more information, visit www.australiasoutback.com



### Escapes

The population of Coober Pedy in South Australia's northern Outback is almost as colourful as the opals that have made the town famous. About half the town's 4000 residents. who hail from 50 countries, live underground in 'dug-outs' to escape the 44°C (111°F) heat in summer. In this cosmopolitan mining town, fortunes from the earth can be made overnight, and as a tourist destination it attracts 100,000 visitors every year. Coober Pedy is also home to the only international underground hotel, the Desert Cave Hotel. For more information, visit www.australia.com

In outback Queensland, on the escarpments to the west of the Atherton Tableland you'll find Wrotham Park Lodge. One of Australia's most luxurious outback experiences is



part of a 1.5 million acre (that's twice the size of Luxembourg) working cattle station which is steeped in history. Today, the station carries around 70,000 head of cattle and a team of stockmen, farm hands, helicopter pilots, mechanics, cooks and other staff the run the operation. Stay in one of 10 self-contained guest cottages known as Quarters that are unlike anything the average cowboy is likely to encounter – each spacious, air-conditioned building is equipped with leather armchairs, ensuite bathrooms, king-size beds and a private veranda for drinking in the view over the Mitchell River. more information, visit www.australia.com

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- Mary Wonzy, Ontario

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- Christine Jambrosic, Ontario

### \$1.8 Million in Six Months —

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### \$45,000 in two months!

– Sriram Rangan, Ontario

### A net profit of \$35,000.

— Rosa Macleod, Ontario

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— Kathy Proff, Washington

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3 p.m. **CALGARY SOUTH** 

**DELTA (ATRIUM TOWER)** 135 Southland Drive Southeast Calgary, AB RESERVATIONS NOT REQUIRED

**MONDAY** December 1, 2008 1 p.m. or 7 p.m. **CALGARY AIRPORT RADISSON** 

2120 16th Avenue Northeast Calgary, AB

RESERVATIONS NOT REQUIRED

**TUESDAY** 

December 2, 2008 1 p.m. or 7 p.m. **EDMONTON HOLIDAY INN CONVENTION CENTRE** 

> 4520 76th Avenue Edmonton, AB

RESERVATIONS NOT REQUIRED Sessions run approximately two hours. **WEDNESDAY** 

December 3, 2008 9 a.m. **EDMONTON HOLIDAY INN** 

**CONVENTION CENTRE** 

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# Automotive carguide



### New Corolla shows class

Toyota engineers continue to improve global mega-seller

Many people are passionate about the Toyota Corolla according to the Corolla's chief engineer, Shinichi Yasui. He says the original engineering maxims that shaped the Corolla back in the mid-1960s are still followed today. And becoming a member of the Corolla engineering group is one of the most prestigious appointments in the company.
They've sold 33 million

since its inception, after all. The newest one started with a new development program that sought to combine the best-in-class aspects from each region in the world into a single car. For instance, during final development the Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada (TMMC) team initiated a few changes — including increasing the distance between the accelerator and



brake pedals to accommodate a man's winter boot, increasing the size of storage pockets to fit larger-sized North American electronics, and making the cup-holders big enough for an extra-large double-double.

Oh, and the door pockets were re-shaped to fit an ice scraper - photos and samples were sent to Japanese engineers not familiar with our quintessential winter tool. A few other highlights include dual glove boxes, a purse hook, audio systems with auxiliary input jack on all models, and standard air conditioning. The engineers also added an electric positive temperature coefficient heater system that accelerates the initial warmup of the cabin when the engine is cold.

That's just the inside.

On the outside, the Corolla was restyled to appear more dynamic and upscale. The new Corolla looks leagues better than the old one — but still looks just like a Camry was distilled into a smaller form factor. The new Corolla is actually 60 mm (2.4 in) wider, 10 mm (0.4-in) longer, and a full 15 mm (0.6 inches) lower than the outgoing model. The new

### 2009 <mark>Toyota Corolla</mark>

Type: Compact car Price: \$14,850 Engine: 14, DOHC, 1.8L / 14, DOHC, 2.4L HP: 126-158

### Highlights

- Larger
- Feels mid-size
- Quieter

proportions lend the car to better road presence, stability and cabin room.

The car also benefits immensely from the use of ultra-high grade steel reinforcements, plus what Toyota calls their "Global Body Line," an advanced automated assembly system used for Lexus vehicles.

The new base 1.8-litre fourcylinder engine produces 132 horsepower at 6,000 rpm, and 128 lb-ft of torque at 4,400 rpm. The power is linear and useable for highway merging, while the torque has been tuned to aid intown puttering. It's standardfare for CE, LE, and S models

- with either a five-speed manual or four-speed automatic transmission.

Returning to the lineup is the XRS model, with a torquey 2.4L 4-cylinder that's a league apart from the original, high-revving XRS featuring the Celica's high-performance motor.

The XRS also gets a few other improvements, like a front strut brace, four-wheel disc brakes, 17-in alloy wheels and vehicle stability control.

The range starts with the well-equipped CE, complete with roll-up windows. Otherwise, it's about all the car you'd ever need. Next up, the LE model is very well equipped, and even features automatic climate control and a smart key system both features normally found on luxury cars.

Above the LE is the S, featuring a few sporty touches a la the outgoing model, like a sporty body kit and rear spoiler. Fully loaded, the XRS completes the lineup.

The entire car has moved nearly a class up, and reflects a mid-size car feel in a

### Ford, Volvo cars lead safety list

**WINNERS** Seventy-two vehicles have earned the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety's Top Safety Pick award for 2009. This is more than double the number of 2008 recipients and more than three times the number of 2007 winners. Top Safety Pick recognizes vehicles that do the best job of protecting people in front, side, and rear crashes based on good ratings in Institute tests. Winners also have to have electronic stability control which research (ESC), shows significantly reduces crash risk.

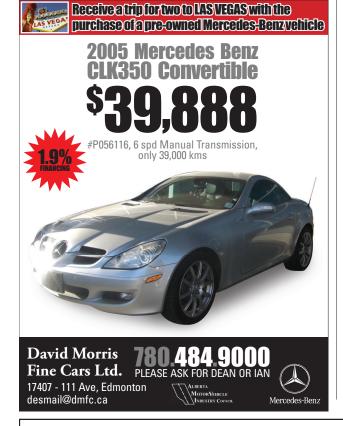
For the first time ever, winners represent every class of vehicle the Institute tests except microcars. Most car, minivan, and SUV models, midsize convertibles, and small and large pickups are eligible. Ford and its subsidiary Volvo have 16 winners, including the Ford F-150 large pickup. Thirteen winners are from Honda and its Acura division. The Honda Fit with optional ESC is the first minicar to earn Top Safety Pick.

Honda, Acura, and Subaru, which picked up four awards, are standouts for 2009 because they have at least one Top Safety Pick in every vehicle class in which they compete.

"Consumers are the biggest winners," says Institute president Adrian Lund. "No matter what kind of vehicle buyers may be considering, now they can walk into just about any dealership and find one that affords the best overall protection in serious crashes."

METRO NEWS SERVICES









# Design inside the box Niscan Cube finally coming to fans outside Japan Hyundai ready for diesel power

### Nissan Cube finally coming to fans outside Japan

**EMMA E FORREST** 

In the Japanese TV advert for the Nissan Cube, a Bambi-cute deer spots the car driving through the forest and rushes to throw herself in the road, faking injury so the two kindhearted Cube drivers pick her up and put her in the back seat, where she achieves her goal getting a ride in this loveable car.

That's the thing with the Cube, it's so irresistible that everyone wants a ride in one. When the Cube first appeared in 1998, it blew car design fans away with its unique, boxy shape and its asymmetrical design. More than just a car it was a beautifully-conceived piece of product design, in the same way that the iPod is more than an MP3 player.

Those bitten by the Cube bug have been waiting to buy it ever since. But, as Alfonso Albaisa, VP of Nissan



Metro's Global Motoring Editor Emma E Forrest gets a sneak preview of the cool new Nissan Cube at Nissan's European design HQ in central London.

Design Europe, explained at the reveal of the thirdgeneration version that is finally coming to the U.K., there were obstacles to overcome, including reversing engineering to create a right-hand drive car.

The exterior is still showstopping despite the crowded landscape for boxy cars, and the interior is truly the lounge that Albaisa intends you to relax in, complete with soft sofa-like seats, shag carpets and a large glass roof with a blind and a shoji shade that allows light through but cuts down heat.

want to be defined as car," says Albaisa. "More like an extra room that you could plug into your house."

The Cube arrives in the U.S. early 2009 (no specific date for Canada yet), and in Europe late 2009, with 1.5-litre diesel and 1.6-litre gasoline powertrains.

PLANT Hyundai has unveiled details of its newest diesel power plant, the R-Engine.

Available in two sizes, 2.0 and 2.2-litre, the new engines can comfortably beat the power outputs of all comparable German and French competitors with outputs of 184 hp, more than most rivals'

The R-Engine benefits from the third generation common rail system with piezo-electric injectors to deliver fuel at 1800-bar for an unprecedented degree of accuracy and control.

It also features an electronic variable geometry turbocharger and an advanced engine control unit (air system-based charge control).

The all-aluminum R-Engine is fitted with a 16overhead dual camshaft which is driven by an internal steel silent timing chain. For reduced vibration and lower noise, the R gets a lower balance shaft which has been en-



enter production next year and will see its first application in SUVs and large sedans.

cased in a stiffened ladder frame housing for increased rigidity.

Weight saving features include serpentine belt with isolation pulley, a plastic head cover, plastic intake manifold and plastic oil filter housing.

More than 500 prototype engines were built during the 42 month-long development period which encompassed a wide variety performance and emissions tests, endurance as well as NVH, cooling and lubrication studies.

### Making sense of emissions

JIM ROBINSON

### "You better hurry up or you'll miss the emissions presentation."

I don't know about you, but I normally would run in the opposite direction of something like that as if my hair was on fire.

But the guy telling me to hurry was Mercedes-Benz' Andrew May, of the global communications department of Mercedes-Benz Cars and someone I've learned is to heed when he talks.

Leading the discussion was Bill Craven, general manager regulatory affairs, Daimler AG. Right off the top, his two main points about cars and emissions is we need one set of regulations worldwide and clean gasoline with low sulphur content just like the new low sulphur diesel we now have at the pumps in Canada.

Before talking about that, it's prudent to look at who pollutes.

Looking at just CO2, transportation makes up 22 per cent of the world's greenhouse gases. Industry accounts for 31 per cent and electricity production is a full 36 per cent. With China bringing on a new fossil fuel-fired electricity plant every eight months, here is a problem on a global scale bigger than just cars.



Subaru is one of the first to offer a Partial Zero Emissions Vehicle (PZEV) version of its Legacy sedan and wagon.

But let's get back to motor vehicles and Craven's contention that one set of rules would drastically speed up the advent of greener cars and at less cost.

Currently the U.S. has one set of environmental regulations, Europe another and Japan yet another.

'The priority here is the achievement of clear guidelines. Unambiguous rules of the game are always the basic requirement necessary in order to function in a targeted and efficient manner," Craven said.

The good news is that we all know the manufacturers are working all out on greener cars and trucks, and governments have started to listen seriously to the carmakers as well as the public.

One approach is the ZEV mandate in California. In order to sell cars in that state, it obliges manufacturers to offer zero localemissions vehicles making up 16 per cent of all the cars in their fleet by 2009.

ZEVs are defined as vehicles that have no vehicle exhaust emissions whatsoever, such as battery and fuel cell vehicles.

Manufacturers may opt to offset a certain proportion of the ZEV quota.

This can be done through so-called Partial Zero Emissions Vehicles (PZEV), which have to fulfill the SULEV standards and the so-called zeroevaporation regulations.

At the same time, a proportion of the ZEV quota may be offset through Advanced Technology PZEV vehicles. These are PZEV vehicles that are equipped with at least certain technology features. These include hybrid, natural gas or bivalent hydrogen combustion en-



### **26** automotive



Volkswagen has launched a full, seven-seat 2009 Routan minivan that will be offered in four trim levels. Styling cues take much from current VW products like the Tiguan-esque front treatment.

### Routan has room for all

JIM ROBINSON

According to Volkswagen Canada president and CEO John White, there still is, and will remain, a market for a vehicle that seats

and will remain, a market for a vehicle that seats seven in comfort. So Volkswagen is launching a seven-seat minivan called the Routan. Volkswagen Canada's position is that it's interested primarily in Honda Odyssey and Toyota Sienna buyers as they see an opportunity to attract import-minded consumers. With the cachet of being the only German maker in the mix, they feel they have a whole new market to plumb.

The Routan is being built

in Windsor on the same line and using the same platform as the Chrysler Town & Country and the Dodge Grand Caravan. Also, partnering with Chrysler means coming to market a lot sooner than trying to develop one in-house, not to mention being much cheaper.

Volkswagen plans to sell 5,500 units a year which would take them well over the 40,000-sales in Canada target.

Essentially, the Routan has crisp styling with the nose drawing heavily from the Tiguan compact crossover. The seats were made firmer as well as the suspension, in other words, more like a Volkswagen.

There are several minor changes, but what you see is what you get, which is essentially a Chrysler Town & Country, which is not a bad thing.

While the Americans get a choice of three engines, the Canadian Routan comes only with a Chrysler-sourced 4.0-litre, SOHC V6 putting out the same 251 hp and 259 lb/ft of torque as the T&C.

In front-drive (all-wheel-drive not available) power goes through a six-speed electronic automatic transmission with sequential shift mode. Fuel consumption is listed at 12.2L/100 km city and 7.9L/100 km highway.

The forward view is commanding and, thankfully, the materials used on the dashboard did not cause a reflection on the huge windshield which is a major failing in many minivans of my experience including the one I currently own.

The 4.0-litre has a lot of poke and the six-speeds mesh so nicely that there is always the right amount of power for conditions.

Ĉanada will get four trim levels: The base Trendline starting at \$27,975; the Comfortline starting at \$33,975; the Highline starting at \$39,975 and the Execline (as tested here) starting at \$49,975.

### 2009 VW Routan

Type: Minivan
Price: \$27,975-\$49,975
Engine: 4.0-litre SOHC V6
HP: 251

### Highlights

- Seats seven
- Front-wheel-drive
- Plenty of power

Each model has a large number of standard and optional features. Probably the best way to get a deeper look is to go to www.vw.ca and build one for yourself.

While this is classified as a "small" minivan, it is anything but and will fill any standard-size garage. But when it comes to picking a seat, there won't be any quibbling because there is room for all in the Routan.

With all three rows of seats up, there is 930 litres of cargo space behind the third row. Fold the third row seat beneath the cargo floor and there is 2,400 litres.

The third row, by the way, has three positions including tipping it over backwards to have a tailgate party seating. The second row seats either fold or can be taken out completely for even more cargo space.

Standard features in the all-new 2009 Routan include three-zone climate control, CD player with six speakers, dual sliding side doors, front and side curtain airbags, Tire Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS), and Electronic Stabilization Program (ESP).



The interior, along with the suspension, was modified to give a more European feel and flair.

technology such as auto

telecommunication, telem-

atics, navigation systems

and Location Based Service

(LBS), and improving Hu-

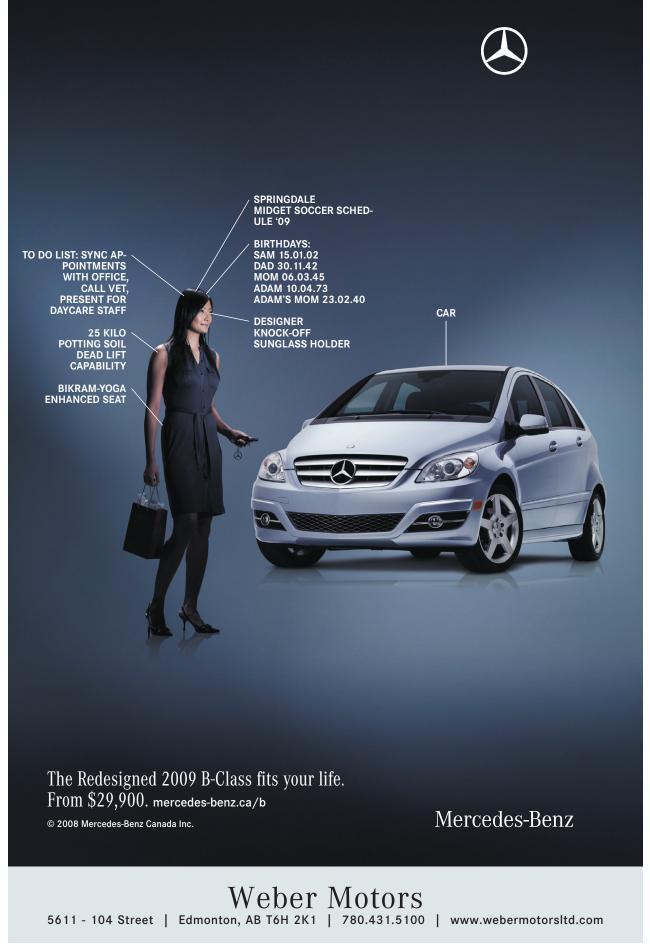
man Machine Interface

### Korean institute drives innovation

INFOTAINMENT Hyundai-Kia Automotive Group (HKAG) and Microsoft Corp. will jointly develop the next generation of in-car infotainment systems; both companies have joined forces with Korea's Institute for IT Advancement to open a dedicated Automotive IT

Innovation Centre (AIIC). HKAG and Microsoft will use the AIIC to develop new (HMI).

The first product will provide voice-controlled connectivity between mobile devices and will be launched into the North American Market in 2010.



Leibovitz in London

Until Feb. 1, 2009, an exhibit of 150 pictures by New York-based photographer Annie Leibovitz will be on display at the National Portrait Gallery. The pictures range from her most celebrated work to intensely private takes. See npg.org.uk/annieleibovitz. METRO WORLD NEWS

# Travel



### **Yotel opens in Amsterdam**

now opened at Amsterdam's Schipol Airport. All 57 cabins boast free Wifi, flat screen televisions and waterfall-like showers. To celebrate the opening, "Yotellers" will be offered a free bottle of champagne if they make sure they plan a stay before the end of December 2008. For reservations, e-mail customer@yotel.com.

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### **Beyond the Pyramids** 16 Day Egypt Tour from \$935

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ADVENTURE TRAVEL



Left, an aerial view of El Questro Station, a million-acre cattle station that was the scene of the film's dramatic cattl- mustering scenes. Right, the boab tree is an iconic part of the Kimberley region.

# Gateway to an epic landscape The tiny town of Kununurra was home to the cast and crew of Australia

**MEGAN ANDERSON** for Metro Canada

There's no cinema in Kununurra, a pin prick on the map in Western Australia's remote north west. Celluloid interludes in the sunbaked town are strictly the domain of the drive-inn picture theatre. The only red carpet is the region's famous pindan

But the celebrity count was high during the filming of Baz Luhrmann's Australia for five months last year. Locals grew accustomed to seeing Hugh Jackman and wife Deborah-Lee Furness at the supermarket, and Keith Urban at the gym. Urban and wife Nicole Kidman shed their bodyguards to wander the streets, lining up for coffee at the town's only breaky joint — the Boab Bookstore and Café — like everyone

While the action took place largely across Western Australia's vast east Kimberley region — all 121,189 square kilometres of it — sleeping and down time was spent in Kununurra, population 7,775, the regional hub gazetted just 60odd years ago in the wake of the Ord River irrigation

mangoes ripened for another year on the fertile flats, several of Kununurra's well heeled residents vacated their riverfront properties to supply homes away from home for Australia's A-List cast and crew. The main drag, Konkerberry Street, got a new Rodeo Drive ring to it, as its unassuming shopfronts became the favoured haunts for the Kidman-Urban-Jackman ilk seeking mementos of the

It might look like a small aircraft hangar from the footpath, for example, but Kimberley Fine Diamonds stocks some of the world's rarest and most dizzyingly expensive diamonds from the nearby Argyle Diamond mine, including the coveted pink diamond.

Proprietor Frauke Bolten-Boshammer is too discreet to say what her famous clients bought (rumour has it that Kidman had a diamond ring designed, but failed to collect it), but visits were long and numer-

Bolten-Boshammer vacated her own Riverfarm Road house for director Luhrmann, who adopted it as his creative refuge. While the salt water crocodiles lurked a decorous distance from the backyard, he

So while the melons and viewed the daily rushes each night. Come shoot's end, she gifted her famous tenant a diamond encrusted 18-carat gold pendant fashioned into the shape of a boab tree. Testament to the optimism radiating from the locals, she intended it as a good luck charm for the Oscars.

Luhrmann's parting gift to the town was a real boab tree, planted in the Celebrity Tree Park where around 150 notables are immortalised in bark and plaque on the banks of Lake Kununurra.

He told townsfolk that boabs - gnarly, bulboustrunked trees which can live for over a thousand years - have a spirituality that spoke to him. The trees, endemic to Western Australia's Kimberley region, became central to the film's visual idiom.

Luhrmann's intention to make Australia a calling

### Kununurra

• Kununurra is 3,214 kilometres from Perth, and 800 kilometres from Darwin. There are daily flights from both centres flying SkyWest airlines, skywest.com.au, and Air North, airnorth.com.au. Also visit kununurratourism.

card of sorts — a filmic acknowledgement of an extraordinary locale — will doubtless inspire a flurry of pilgrimages to Kununurra and the wider region whose assets have hitherto lurked under a very remote

bushel. Along the sleepy 60-kilometre stretch of the impressive Ord River, for instance, finding a deserted fishing spot with an embarrassment of silver cobbler and exotic bird life is a cinch. The man-made Lake Argyle is so vast — more than 100 square kilometres - it contains its own archipelago and can generate waves up to two metres

Kununurra artist and things along. owner Nadeen gallery Lovell knows the beauty well. And the extent to which the film and the town at its nerve centre will remain inextricably linked. A regular with her easel at House Roof Hill, a much-painted scene close to where the film's fictional homestead was built at Carlton Hill Station, she was privy to a conversation with set designers about the vegetable patch they were establishing there to give the homestead authenticity. Lamenting their failure to make the vegetables grow fast enough, Lovell volunteered produce from her own garden to help

The next morning at 5 a.m., a crew arrived at her house with a truck and a shovel. They left with a load of fully grown greens destined for a film set more than 100 kilometres away.

Now, like many residents of the Kimberley, Lovell is awaiting the film with bated breath.

Not just to see local landmarks writ large on the big screen, or to ogle Kidman and Jackman inhabiting the distinctive Kimberley landscape. She can't wait to see the end of it. The closing credits in particular. Will "Lettuce by Nadeen" be the town's final crowning glo-



Hugh Jackman and Nicole Kidman in a scene from the film Australia.

The fight for Nixon

Frank Langella had to fight to play former U.S. president Richard Nixon in new movie Frost/Nixon, because studio bosses wanted to give the role to screen legend Warren Beatty.

# Entertainment

**All smiles** 

reportedly forced to fix his teeth before filming new movie Twilight, because producers wanted him to have an alluring smile. IMDB.COM

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA AMETRONEWS.CA

●●● A CLASSIC: ●●●● EXCELLENT: ●●● GOOD: ●● FAIR: ● POOR

### Walters set to **interview Obamas**

**POLITICS** The Barack Obama media tour is making another stop — and at another high-profile place.

A week after the president-elect and first ladyelect Michelle Obama spoke to 60 Minutes, they're sitting down for an interview with ABC's Barbara Walters. It'll air as a one-hour special tonight on ABC.

ABC said the interview would touch on the transition, the economy, foreign policy and how the family is dealing with the immense change in their lives. Parts of the interview will also air on Good Morning America, World News and Nightline.

### Frank subject of new film projects

MOVIES Anne Frank is the subject of two film projects that are being developed.

Jacqueline van Maarsen's book My Name Is Anne, She Said, Anne Frank will be made into a film as a joint production of SamFilm and CTM Films BV. Italian International Films is producing Memories of Anne Frank, an adaptation of Alison Leslie Gold's book Memories of Anne Frank: Reflections of a Childhood Friend.

### In **brief**

TV It looks like America's Next Top Model will be back on the catwalk next season. The CW is close to renewing the Tyra Banks-hosted reality competition series for a 13th cycle to air in fall 2009.

### Australia long, but worth it

### Australia

**Director:** Baz Luhrmann Stars: Nicole Kidman, Hugh Jackman Class: STC

STEVE GOW

Rating: ••

for Metro Canada

**REVIEW** There's a lot riding on Australia. For starters, at \$130 million dollars, it's the most expensive Aussie film ever made. And while a rather overblown budget is cause enough to concern director Luhrmann (Moulin Rouge), tourism officials are hoping the film will renew their industry as well.

Luhrmann shouldn't worry so much about that. If nothing else, Australia is a beautifully filmed study of a vast land that — as one character says — has "a strange power." What Luhrmann should fret over is the drawn-out narrative that plays to melodramatic excess.

Set during the outbreak of World War II, Australia features Nicole Kidman as Lady Ashley, widow of a mysteriously murdered cattle ranch owner. When confronted by her hus-

Visit metronews.ca/movies for screen times and to see the trailers for Australia, Four Christmases and Transporter 3.

band's takeover bid, Ashley hires a maverick stockman (Hugh Jackman) and joins him on a massive cattle drive across the outback.

While the movie's not short on romance or adventure (including a cattle stampede), this flick really stands apart from its contemporaries through Luhrmann's careful study of Australia's heritage.

Led by 13-year-old newcomer Brandon Walters, Australia sheds light on the Stolen Generations — Aboriginal children who were removed from their families and placed in missions.

Walters is truly the backbone of this movie playing Nullah, a mixedrace child who becomes the surrogate son of Ashley. Not only does he provide the film with a stirring breakout performance, but some muchneeded cultural depth as

While sitting for the film's 165-minute length may leave you numb down under, Australia's passion redeems its bulkiness; regardless of its strenuous story, this is still a crusade worth catching.

While its length may leave you numb, Australia's passion redeems its bulkiness.



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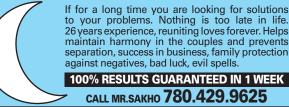
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### **Transporter 3**

**Director:** Olivier Megaton Stars: Jason Statham

Class: 14A Rating: ###

CHRIS ALEXANDER

**REVIEW** Virtually gone are the days of the Eurotrash flick: Those slick late-'60s French/Italian exports that mined popular American genre trappings while grafting their own highly stylized, haute couture informed sensibilities on top.

From the sexually charged sci-fi hijinks of Barbarella to the kinky comic book thrills of Danger: Diabolik, these quintessentially European art/junk pictures



Jason Statham in Transporter 3.

bent rules and existed only to thrill.

Which is why the flawed but fun Luc Besson-produced Transporter films are so endearing; their single brained intent is to bombard audiences with eyeball spinning action, beautifully dressed — and undressed women, sexy cars and exotic locales while blaring pulsing techno music.

The latest entry in the lucrative but critically maligned franchise, simply called Transporter 3, once more pits an iron jawed, black belt-sporting mercenary driver Frank Martin against a cabal of greasy, well-tailored international

And while the film boasts the same clunky narrative problems and distractingly dubbed European actors as the first two installments, I'm happy to report that the breathlessly-paced Transporter makes amends by delivering some of the most delirious action set pieces of this or any other year.

Here, Frank finds himself driving a mysterious package and a strung-out Ukranian party girl across Eastern Europe against his will. In a kinky plot device, Frank's fate is literally tied to his beloved Audi.

See, his villainous employers have affixed an explosive device to his wrist, ensuring that if he goes 50feet from the machine, he'll be blown to smithereens. When Frank curls his lip at this, many car-crunching chases and bone breaking martial arts battles follow - much of Statham's fighting is shirtless.

Fuelled by a wildly unhinged sensibility and with tongue lodged firmly in cheek, Transporter 3 flat out rocks and is a dynamite, retro-pulp entertainment that should please the legion of James Bond fans who were left cold by Quantum of Solace.

### entertainment 29



Singer/actress Beyonce has revealed she wants kids — but adds she's still scarred from witnessing the birth of her nephew. "I was there in the delivery room and it kind of traumatized me," Beyoncé admits. PEOPLE.COM

### Silverman braves stormy seas

**IntelleVision** 



**FAILING YOUR WAY TO THE TOP:** One day there will be a really fantastic glossy magazine article or white-knuckled business book on the career of Ben Silverman and his tenure at NBC. The network, like the rest of the big four, is having a bad year, and after going AWOL for almost a month at the Beijing Olympics while the network suffered painful birthing pangs on their new season, it was expected that that Silverman would be a convenient fall guy if things turned out poorly.

Silverman's time as cohead of NBC Entertainment has been anything but smooth; screenwriters went on strike six months after he signed his twoyear contract with the company, and it's been all damage control since then. Hollywood, like a medieval village or an isolated Amazon tribe, is a superstitious place, and after a run as poor as this you'd expect that Silverman would be on his way to sacrifice at the altar of the fire god, but as has been pointed out too many times before, putting "show" and "business" together means that laws of physics and basic math are suspended.

Silverman, a Hollywood character of legendary arrogance, is apparently a master of the deal, and has actually saved the network money while its shows and ratings have continued to tank.

"I could not be more pleased with the job that he's done," NBC CEO Jeff Zucker told the Los Angeles Times. Hollywood insiders continue to confirm gobsmacked rumours that his contract will be renewed and Katherine Pope, the Universal Media Studio head, will be the scapegoat. Her contract is also up in June, and it looks like she's already being measured for her pine

> Rick McGinnis writes about music. movies, books and televisi but not opera.

### A happy holiday diversion

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

### Four **Christmases**

**Director:** Seth Gordon Stars: Vince Vaughn, Reese

Witherspoon Classification: PG Rating: 🕮 🅮 🎕

PHIL BROWN for Metro Canada



### With the Halloween horror season behind us, it's time for Hollywood to start trudging out their odes the most commercial of all holidays.

Four Christmases is the first release to hit screens and while it has plenty of the Yuletide carols and goopy sentimentality that we expect this time of year, the concept is just subversive enough to make it worth seeing.

Sure, this is no future Christmas classic, but it will be a movie that you won't angrily turn off when it starts airing on television during the holidays.

Vaughn and Vince Reese Witherspoon star as a professional couple who always avoid their families during Christmas and understandably so,



Four Christmases is no future classic, but it will be a movie that you won't angrily turn off during the holidays.

considering that they both come from highly eccentric divorced families (that's four dysfunctional visits per year).

After the film's worst plot contrivance traps them in the country and broadcasts their availability to their kin, Vaughn and Witherspoon embark

on their dreaded Four Christmases. The movie is episodic by design and is predictably inconsistent depending on which family the couple are visiting. But with a stacked cast that includes such names as Robert Duvall, Sissy Spacek, Mary Steenburgen, and Jon Favereau,

the hits are more plentiful than the misses.

The film marks the fictional directorial debut of Seth Gordon who's hilarious documentary The King Of Kong was probably the most underappreciated gem of 2007.

Gordon has a gift for character comedy that shows in this film, it's just too bad that the rushed production didn't give him a chance to iron out all of the problems with the script. For a holiday movie that starts out refreshingly subversive and anti-family, the film nosedives into sentimentality in the closing scenes and ends on a very predictable and unsatisfying note.

However, with comedy leads as strong as Vaughn and Witherspoon along with a talented supporting cast, the movie offers plenty of laughs before limping to the finish line. With a little more work this could have been an anti-Christmas classic like The Ref

Instead it's little more than a pleasant holiday diversion.

### GlobalStyle Kenya Hunt Three top models reveal their holiday wish lists, exclusively



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metronews.ca/movies



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### critics'corner—

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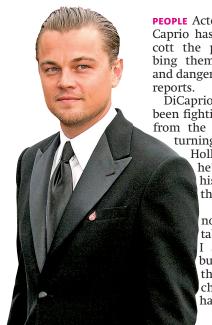
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My Chemical Romance singer Gerard Way and his wife Lindsey Ballato are expecting a baby due early next summer, his rep confirms to People. PEOPLE.COM

### **Celebrity Buzz**

### Leo fights to keep privacy | Cruise's family plans



PEOPLE Actor Leonardo Di- You know what it is with Caprio has vowed to boycott the paparazzi, dubbing them "disrespectful and dangerous," imdb.com

DiCaprio admits he's been fighting to stay away from the limelight since turning into a major

Hollywood star, and he's keen to keep his name out of the press.

"Actually, I'm not in the tabloids anymore. I am sometimes, but I've watched culture change. I'm old hat. And I love it.

me? This is something I'd like to clarify. I've heard people say, 'Because you hide, it makes you seem ungrateful," he says. "The mere fact that these — I'll use the word piles — are earning money from exploiting my image is the only reason I hide myself or am not a photo-friendly person. I do not like the way they conduct themselves. I think they're disrespectful and dangerous. The reason I don't pose or smile or that I seem mad is that I don't want them to make a living off my private life."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES** 

CHILDREN Tom Cruise is keen to expand his family with Katie Holmes, but is waiting until his

wife finishes current stint on Broadway before trying for another baby, imdb.com reports.

Holmes is starring in a new adaptation of Arthur Miller's All My Sons will be and based in New York until the end of her run, which is expected to finish early next year.

Cruise admits the couple, who already have twoyear-old daughter Suri, are keen for another baby, but they have to wait until Holmes returns to the family home in California.

'We have already heard

she's pregnant but it's not true. But yes, we will have more children. I'm saying this, Kate's not here! She's working and we're enjoying this time right now. It's very precious, we don't get this time

back,'

says.

**METRO NEWS** 

Cruise

### Simpson wrote in diary to heal

**WELL-BEING** Jessica Simpson put pen to paper to cure her of the heartbreak following her split from husband Nick Lachey, because writing in her diary was "therapeutic" for the star, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer, who divorced Lachey in 2002 after three years of marriage, found it helpful to keep a journal of her thoughts and feelings.

Simpson later used the emotional entries as inspiration for her music.

"It (writing in a diary) is very, very therapeutic,' she says. "There is a lot about heartbreak, there is a lot about perseverance. I used it as inspiration for my album."



### **Dating authors offer Aniston advice**

Aniston has been offered dating advice by the authors of The Rules, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Sherrie Schneider, who co-wrote the dating manual with Ellen Fein, says the former Friends actress should not have spoken publicly about her summer breakup from John Mayer, and should also keep quiet about her ex-husband Brad Pitt's relationship with Angelina Jolie.

"Breaking up is never

easy, but it doesn't have to ring to Aniston's recent be humiliating,' first interview about Jolie, Schneider said. during which she called "Never mention the actress "uncool" for admitting she had started Brad's or John Mayer's name in her relationship with Pitt Also, while he was still married, public. don't say any Schneider added: "Never talk about Angelithing bad about na or call her 'unlike Brad. when you cool,' even if she said he was uncool. She was missdoes not exist in ing a sensi-

vour world." **METRO NEWS** SERVICES

### No motherhood for Carrie

CAREER Sarah Jessica Parker to the mix, because she has promised fans her character Carrie Bradshaw will not become a mother in the Sex And The City: The Movie sequel, because it would go against the character's beliefs, imdb.com reports.

"It doesn't seem as if that's going to be a choice she'll make," she says. "I don't know. Michael (Patrick King, director) and I never talk about it. That doesn't mean that won't be part of the story. We just haven't figured it out. It feels a little bit manipulative to toss that inseems so pointed in a dif-



### Winehouse is sent to hospital

**HEALTH** Singer Amy Winehouse was admitted to a private London hospital on Sunday, her rep tells CNN.

Chris Goodman told the news outlet that medication Winehouse was taking made her ill, and doctors admitted her to the clinic for investigation, People.com reports.

Winehouse previously checked into a London hospital in July after suffering a bad reaction to

her medication. But Goodman did not disclose which medications were involved in either case. **METRO NEWS SERVICES** 

### **Brandy devastated**

TRAGEDY Brandy says she was so devastated by her high-speed car crash that killed another woman motorist in Los Angeles two years ago, "there was a point when I didn't feel like it was OK to live on —



PageSix.com reports. METRO

### Paris booed at birthday party

an event in Los Angeles.

tivity

chip.

Refer-

The hotel heiress was set to introduce the Pussycat Dolls at a birthday party for designer Christian Audigier's daughter, Crystal, but when Audigier asked the crowd if they wanted to see Paris, they broke out

PEOPLE Paris Hilton re- in a chorus of boos. Acceived a chilly reception at cording to a source at the party, "The entire room which had just cheered when they thought Britney Spears was coming booed loudly. Paris was practically in tears and left without taking the stage.

NED EHRBAR/ METRO WORLD Butler may not be charged for fight The snapper was report-

**LEGAL** Actor Gerard Butler has been given the chance to resolve his recent fight with a paparazzo without facing criminal charges imdb.com reports.

Butler stands accused of beating up a photographer who followed him as he left a Los Angeles bar last month.

edly treated in hospital for the injuries he suffered. According TMZ.com, Butler has

been ordered to attend an informal hearing at the city attorney's of-

> METRO NEWS SERVICES



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### **Today**

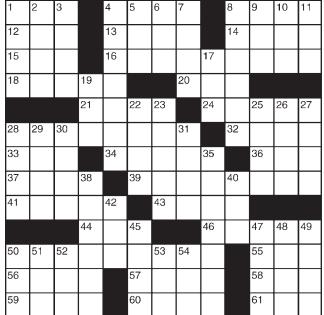






Michele McDougall, Weather Specialist & Host – Breakfast Television

### **Take Five**



### Sudoku

**HOW TO PLAY:** Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	8		9		2		7	
9								8
		2	3		8	4		
	1		2	4	6		8	
	7						2	
	4		7	5	1		9	
		3	1		5	8		
1								2
	6		4		7		3	

### **Crossword across**

- 1 Do sums
- 4 Apprehend 8 Film segment
- 12 Anger
- 13 Medley
- 14 Similar to
- 15 Brooks or Torme
- 16 Chair protector
- 18 Filch
- 20 Corrode
- 21 Open somewhat
- 24 Tibet's capital 28 One with lots of four-
- legged friends? 32 Satan's specialty
- 33 Submachine gun 34 Jazz style

- 36 A Gershwin
- 37 Raised
- 39 Pirate
- 41 Comic Silverman
- 43 Cornfield trespasser
- 44 Scratch
- 46 Tangle
- 50 Read quickly
- 55 Dinner for Dobbin
- 56 Staffer
- 57 "David Copperfield"
- character 58 Swelled head
- 59 Banana castoff
- 60 Took to the pool
- 61 Chaps

### Crossword down

1 Intentions 2 Bob's "The Price Is Right" successor

- 3 Sandwich shop
- 4 Rhinoplasty
- 5 The whole enchilada 6 Midafternoon hour on a
- sundial
- 7 Easy bounding gait 8 Dress
- 9 Tyler or Ullmann
- 10 White House nickname
- 11 Apiece 17 Western st.
- 19 Crony
- 22 Birds, to Brutus
- 23 Violin's ancestor 25 Tel -
- 26 Paddock papa

- 27 Winged
- 28 Taverns
- 29 Pound of poetry
- 30 Wedding cake feature
- 31 Bellow
- 35 Telecast
- 38 Maiden
- 40 Possess
- 42 Possesses 45 Fishing gear
- 47 Attention getter
- 48 Storm
- 49 French city
- 50 Space
- 51 Falsehood
- 52 Praise in verse
- 53 Solemn promise
- 54 Historic time

### PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

2	3	7	6	1	4	9	5	8
6	8	4	9	5	7	1	2	3
5	9	1	3	2	8	4	7	6
1	5	2	4	3	6	7	8	9
9	7	3	5	8	1	6	4	2
4	6	8	7	9	2	3	1	5
8	1	6	2	4	3	5	9	7
3	4	9	8	7	5	2	6	1
7	2	5	1	6	9	8	3	4

SUDO	KU SOLV	E TIME

- Under 13 min ......Genius 13-17 min.....Scholar
- 17-21 min ..... 21-25 min ......Not bad 25+ min.....Keep practising

### **Beef Stroganoff**

**Metro Recipe of the Day** 

### INGREDIENTS:

- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 1 large red onion 1/2 lb (230g) small chestnut
- mushrooms 1 1/4 lb (560g) beef fillet 2 tsp (10 mL) fresh green
- peppercorns in brine
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) Dijon mustard 1 1/4 cup (300 mL) sour cream
- 8 small drained cocktail gherkins A small bunch of chives

### METHOD:

- 1. Heat 1 tbsp (15 mL) oil in a large frying pan. Halve, peel, and thinly slice onion, then fry over a moderate heat until slightly softened, about 2 or 3 minutes.
- 2. Meanwhile, clean and halve mushrooms and add to the pan. Increase heat and cook, stirring, for about 5 minutes, until softened and most liquid has evaporated.
- 3. While mushrooms are cooking, slice beef fillet very thinly, then cut across the grain into thin strips.
- 4. When mushrooms are

cooked, put into a large bowl with onion and set aside. 5. Add 1 tbsp (15 mL) oil to the pan and increase heat to high. Add half of beef and stir-fry for 2-3 minutes, or until very lightly browned, then remove. Heat remaining oil and cook rest of beef the same way. 6. Return onion, mushrooms and first batch of beef with juices to the frying pan. Crush green peppercorns, add to the pan with some salt, and heat through for 1-2 minutes. 7. Blend mustard and sour cream together and stir into beef, with gherkins. Heat through gently, without boiling. Trim, rinse, and dry chives, snip over top and serve.

### rd.ca

For nutritional infor mation on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on



**AVATAR VENUS** 

### **Horoscopes**

### **ARIES**

### **MARCH 21-APRIL 20** A headstrong person misses talking to you. Emotional dis-

tress is caused by an unusual amount of problems. Don't give up on yourself.

### **LIBRA**

**SEPT 23-OCT 23** 

Be assured that nobody will let you down. A mastermind should not be tangled with. A

### **TAURUS** APRIL 21-MAY 21

Falling in love is okay, if you think long and hard first. Pushiness makes for an unsettling situation. Decadent foods are clues to your secret longings.

### **SCORPIO**

**OCT 24-NOV 22** 

A discovery takes on greater significance. Satisfaction is guaranteed if you keep a promise. An argumentative stranger tells the truth.

### **GEMINI MAY 22-JUNE 21**

An unexpected escapade torments your heart. Love will have a deeper meaning. Someone hasn't changed in a significant way.

### **SAGITTARIUS NOV 23-DEC 21**

All you want to do is have some fun. Be poised when facing a difficult cross-examination. An awesome adventure baffles onlookers.

### **CANCER** JUNE 22-JULY 22

Give someone a good reason to stay. A weight problem is spitefully discussed. Bring your life back into focus

### **CAPRICORN DEC 22-JAN 20**

Say goodbye to a domineering woman. A special dream will come true. Take good care of a fragile elder.

### **LEO JULY 23-AUG 23**

Bittersweet memories accompany a departing hero. Curiosity is satisfied by a devoted sweetheart. An expert interferes with tried and true plans.

### **AQUARIUS JAN 21-FEB 18**

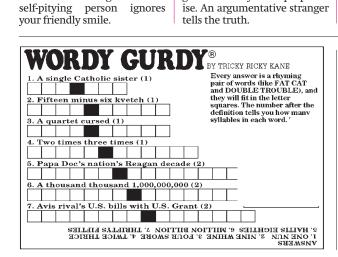
An optimist will touch your heart. Prance around with crazy old friends. Stop speculating about how things might have been.

### **VIRGO AUG 24-SEPT 22**

Lack of faith will cause a crash. Being ignored will wreck your hard won serenity. Someone's loyalty is being questioned.

### **PISCES**

**FEB 19-MARCH 20** Pleasure is found in new music Disappointment ends a relationship. Stay where you are for a while.



ignores

### This day in history

NOV. 26, 1784: Catholic Apostolic Prefecture of the United States

NOV. 26, 1789: A national Thanksgiving Day is observed in the United States as recommended by President George Washington and approved by Congress.

NOV. 26, 1917: The National Hockey League is formed, with the Montreal Canadiens, Montreal Wanderers, Ottawa Senators, Quebec Bulldogs and Toronto Arenas as its first teams.

NOV. 26, 1941: U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs a bill establishing the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day in the United States. METRO NEWS SERVICES



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